



New Center Director Shares Leadership Philosophy and Goals

Jim Free Addresses Employees

"I'm honored to have this job," said Jim Free during his first All Hands meeting as Center Director Feb. 12. "I care about the people who work here and I'm committed to each of you and making us [NASA Glenn] successful."

During the All Hands address at Lewis Field, which aired live at Plum Brook Station, Free shared his leadership philosophies and short-term priorities. He noted among those priorities since taking the helm in January, he has selected his deputy director, conducted this All Hands meeting with employees and submitted recommendations on Glenn's role within the agency to NASA's Total Capabilities Assessment Team.



C-2013-304

Photo by Bridget Caswell

Pictured: Free and Pietravoia, front, hold "The Best Place to Work in the Federal Government" plaque during the All Hands meeting as employees cheer in the background. Seated, front, right, is new Deputy Director Robinson and his wife.

NASA Earns "The Best Place to Work in the Federal Government" Award

Additional priorities on Free's list include: continuing to grow external partnerships and new business, addressing budget shortfalls in fiscal year 2014 and the out years and refining the center reorganization model by the June-July timeframe.

Free said the center reorganization will occur with some slight modifications from the original model. He indicated that there is still time for employee input.

He introduced his new Deputy Director Gregory L. Robinson and his wife, Cynthia, who were visiting the center and getting to know the Cleveland area.

Robinson, who previously served as NASA's deputy chief engineer, expressed his desire to quickly get into the Glenn workplace to meet employees. He is expected to be onboard this month.

With the assistance of Lori Pietravoia, director of Glenn's Office of Human Capital Management, Free presented a plaque from the Partnership for Public Service to employees signifying NASA as "The Best Place to Work in the Federal Government" among large agencies. The rankings draw on responses from nearly 70,000 civil servants to produce a detailed view of employee satisfaction and commitment across 362 federal agencies and subcomponents.

Free concluded the meeting with questions from employees.

—By Doreen B. Zudell

Astronaut Suni Williams Shares Mission Highlights



C-2013-334

Sunita "Suni" Williams, the first Ohio astronaut to command the International Space Station, visited NASA Glenn and the Great Lakes Science Center.

See page 3.

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NASA's Plum Brook Station Reaches 50-Year Milestone

Fifty years ago on March 15, 1963, NASA officially purchased 6,031 acres of land that is known today as NASA Glenn Research Center's Plum Brook Station.



C-1963-63844

Center Director Abe Silverstein, right, and Army Corps of Engineers James Bailey review papers accepting Plum Brook Station.

50 Years: How We've Grown

- **1941**—War Department purchased 6,031 acres of private land for the Plum Brook Ordnance Works.
- **March 1, 1956**—NACA received permit to use 500 acres for the reactor.
- **March 1, 1958**—NACA received permit to use additional 2,712 acres for Rocket Systems Laboratory giving a total of 3,180.
- **March 15, 1963**—3,180 acres previously held under permit officially transferred to NASA as well as the 2,800-acre bunker area that would be used for Space Power Facility; NASA owned a total of 6,031 acres.
- **1967-71**—NASA purchased 2,000 acres of land along its perimeter for a buffer zone but allowed previous owners to continue using the land for agriculture.
- **1977-89**—1,600 acres of the buffer zone properties were sold back to original owners.
- **Today**—Plum Brook consists of 6,432 acres.

Source: NASA Glenn History Office

Suggestion Improves Efficiency, Saves Money

Employees realize their ideas count through the Employee Suggestion Program

The ingenuity of Jon Mitchell, a Sierra Lobo employee working as a research laboratory mechanic in the Aviation Environments Technical Branch, recently helped the center solve a costly dilemma.

Replacing worn fasteners (bolts and locknuts) in the Engine Research Laboratory's test cell CE-18 costs thousands of dollars due to the quality of the fasteners. However, Mitchell discovered discarded fasteners in another test cell that appeared to be the right fit for CE-18, while on the lookout for other test cell materials. Instead of disposing of the fasteners, Mitchell switched them for the worn fasteners in test cell CE-18.

Mitchell's initiative saved the center more than \$18,000 to replace the fasteners. The money saved also enabled technicians to extend the testing season to accommodate additional tests, including performance testing of the state-of-the art centrifugal compressor stage under the High-Efficiency Centrifugal Compressor Program.

Mitchell is one of several employees whose ideas were recently adopted under the Employee Suggestion Program. The program allows cash awards, up to \$7500, paid to employees who submit suggestions that directly improve efficiency, economy and/or effective execution of government operations. To learn tips and guidelines for submitting ideas, contact Harvey Schabes, 3-5309.



Photo by Doreen B. Zudell

Mitchell by fasteners inside test cell CE-18.

—By Doreen B. Zudell

FIRST Robotics

Comes to Town

March 28-30



The 12th Annual Buckeye Regional FIRST Robotics Competition will be held March 28-30 at Cleveland State University's Wolstein Center in downtown Cleveland. Over 50 high school teams and 1,275 students will participate in this year's FIRST (For the Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) competition, which will feature the 2013 game "Ultimate Ascent."

Would you like to be a part of the action? Volunteers are still needed! To register, visit: <http://www.oai.org/firstbuckeye/volunteers.html> by Friday, March 22.

Astronaut Suni Williams Shares Mission Highlights in Cleveland

Visits Lewis Field and Great Lakes Science Center

NASA astronaut and Euclid, Ohio, native Sunita “Suni” Williams visited Cleveland on Feb. 15 and 16 to excite and engage audiences of all ages in several activities at NASA Glenn and the Great Lakes Science Center.

Williams began her visit with an Expedition 32/33 Mission Briefing for Glenn employees in the Administration Building Auditorium at Lewis Field. She shared some of her experiences during her tour—July to November 2012—onboard the International Space Station. Williams conducted research on five experiments developed by Glenn and performed an in-space triathlon that included running on a treadmill while using an improved harness developed at Glenn’s Exercise Countermeasures Laboratory (ECL).

Williams said the highlight of her mission was the three spacewalks she performed with crewmate Akihiko Hoshide of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) to repair several critical elements of the space complex, including a radiator. Despite its complex nature, Williams has come to think of the space station, now completed and fitted with all its creature comforts and state-of-the-art technology, as a vacation home away from Earth.

She wrapped up her presentation by answering employees’ questions and signing autographs.

After the mission briefing, Williams traveled to Glenn’s Space Experiments Laboratory where she met with the principal investigators and researchers of five Glenn-developed experiments—InSPACE-3, BASS, BCAT-5, FLEX and SAMS—for science reviews and lessons-learned discussions. She also visited the ECL.

The next day Williams joined NASA Glenn, in partnership with the Great Lakes Science Center, in a tribute to commemorate the maiden flight of Friendship 7. The Ohio Senate passed a bill last year designating Feb. 20 as the annual observance of John Glenn Friendship 7 Day, to salute the Ohio astronaut who was America’s first man to orbit the Earth in 1962.

Thousands of visitors packed the Great Lakes Science Center, home of the NASA Glenn Visitor Center, for the space-themed programming. As the featured speaker, Williams highlighted her Expedition 32/33 mission, which afforded her the honor of being the first Ohio astronaut to command the International Space Station.

After the presentation, she talked with audience members and signed autographs. One of the young attendees, Katie Cochran from Aurora, expressed her gratitude and excitement about meeting an astronaut and obtaining an autograph.

“Every night I stare at the stars with hope that someday soon I will visit space,” Cochran said. “I really do dream of becoming a NASA astronaut, and events like this inspire me to realize it’s really possible.”

—By S. Jenise Veris



C-2013-328

Williams at Lewis Field: (1) briefing Glenn employees (2) reviewing future plans for the ECL (3) attending Science Reviews.

Activities at GLSC: (4) Education booths demonstrating space suit cooling system and (5) simulating Mars rover landing on Xbox. (6) Williams with Cochran.



C-2013-396



C-2013-373



Photos by Michelle Murphy and Stephen Sanderson

News and Events

New Home Page Features ›

Want to learn more about what's happening at NASA Glenn? The Web Portal team has added several user-friendly features to its home page. When you log onto <http://www.nasa.gov/centers/glenn/home/index.html> you'll see the live Twitter Feed on the right side, a scrolling box of our latest feature stories, current events updates and featured images. Check it out!



C-2013-249

Photo by Michelle Murphy

‹ Day of Remembrance

Astronaut Doug Wheelock, pictured left, joined the Glenn staff for the NASA Day of Remembrance on Jan. 31. Led by Associate Director Janet Watkins, employees paused to remember our fallen heroes of the Apollo 1, Challenger and Columbia crews, as well as all other members of the NASA family who lost their lives furthering the cause of exploration and discovery. Following Wheelock's touching tribute to each crew member, Matt Melis, Structures and Dynamics Branch, recognized the 10th anniversary of the Columbia accident by sharing his analysis and testing work for the Columbia Accident Investigation and NASA's Return to Flight programs.

Striving for MLK's Dream of Equality ›

Nearly half a century after Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech, the sobering reality is that the color of a person's skin can still tip the scales of justice, according to Dr. Ronnie Dunn, pictured right, in his keynote address at Glenn's 2013 Martin Luther King Equality Ceremony Jan. 23. Dunn, an associate professor of Urban Studies at Cleveland State University, shared the results of a study commissioned by the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office examining traffic ticketing distribution data for patterns of "racial profiling" to address and improve processes and procedures that ensure equality for all.



C-2013-208

Photo by Bridget Caswell

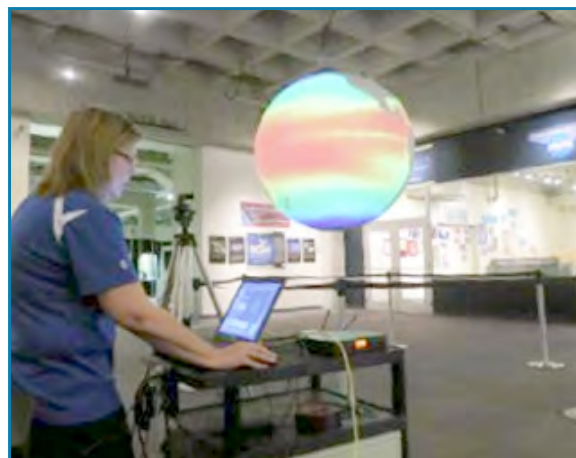


Photo by Janice Haas

‹ High-Tech Educational Webinar

Susan Kohler, an aerospace education specialist in NASA Glenn's Educational Programs Office, conducted a national educational webinar on remote sensing live from the Great Lakes Science Center on Dec. 18. Kohler, pictured left, engaged her audience using Science on a Sphere (SOS), a high-tech visual aid composed of computers and video projectors to display animated data on the outside of a 6-foot sphere suspended in air. The event was broadcast with the help of Dave Mazza, Video Learning Center, and in collaboration with Janice Haas and Jesse Terry, supporting the Space Communications and Navigation Program at NASA Glenn, and the Great Lakes Science Center.

Plum Brook Testing Helps Scientific Balloon Set Records

Up, Up and Way to Go Glenn!

Last summer, engineers and technicians in the Spacecraft Propulsion Research Facility (B-2) at Plum Brook Station performed testing to verify the functionality and survivability of payload components for a large NASA balloon borne instrument known as the Super Trans-Iron Galactic Element Recorder (Super-TIGER). The balloon recently broke two flight duration records while flying over Antarctica carrying an instrument that detected 50 million cosmic rays.

The instrument, a structure jammed with electronics (and hitched to the huge atmospheric balloon) was designed to measure rare elements heavier than iron among the flux of high-energy cosmic rays bombarding the Earth from elsewhere in our Milky Way galaxy. Testing in the B-2 chamber involved simulating various low-pressures and high-temperatures the payload would encounter in the environment of the upper atmosphere. The instrument gathered so much data that it will take scientists two years to analyze fully.



Photo courtesy of NASA

Early testing of payload components at Plum Brook helped ensure a successful outcome in Antarctica.

—By Doreen B. Zudell

Elonen-Wright Coaches International Ski Team

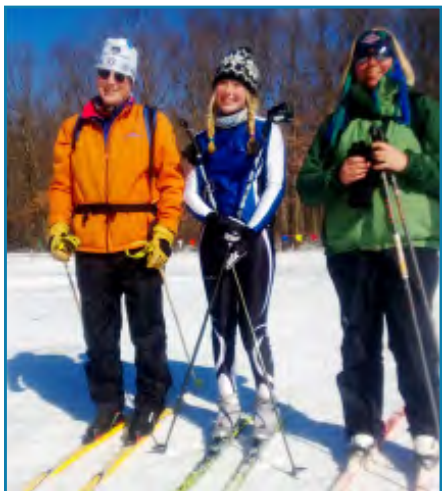
Lewis Ski Club Members Compete in Russia

Skiing is a passion for Lewis Ski Club member Linda Elonen-Wright, chief of the Facility Management Planning Office. Earlier this month, she had an opportunity to share her love for the recreational sport as a coach for the 6th Winter International Children's Games (ICG) in Ufa, Russia.

Elonen-Wright, her husband, Jim Wright, daughter, Gwen, and fellow Lewis Ski Club members, Sears and Henley Shultz, participated in the ICG. They traveled to Russia with eight other local athletes, ages 12 to 15, as Team Cleveland, and competed in the categories of Nordic (cross country) and alpine (downhill) skiing, ski orienteering and ski-cross.

Elonen-Wright and her husband have been members of the family friendly Lewis Ski Club since she began her career at the center 30 years ago. She recently completed the

Community Coaching Course program of Cross Country Ontario in Georgian Bay, Canada. In December, Elonen-Wright was asked to support Team Cleveland by helping to coach at the ICG. The fact that her husband and daughter were already competing made it a family affair.



Jim and Linda with daughter Gwen, during practice for Team Cleveland Nordic skiers.

"Participating in the ICG was a fabulous opportunity for the kids because it's like a junior Olympics—with an opening ceremony and parade into a stadium. For skiers from Cleveland, this may be as close to the real Olympics as they'll ever get," Elonen-Wright reflected. "We're grateful to the Lewis Ski Club for their encouragement and support of Team Cleveland's fundraising activities, which helped to make it possible!"

—By S. Jenise Veris

Saturday Tours Begin in April

Invite your family and friends to come out to NASA Glenn this summer. The center will offer free tours of its world-class facilities at Lewis Field one Saturday a month from April through October.

A tour bus will depart from Lewis Field's main gate every hour beginning at 10 a.m., with the last tour departing at 1 p.m. One-hour tours begin in the Briefing Center Auditorium and include a multimedia presentation on Glenn.

The 2013 Saturday tours premier April 6, and will highlight the Simulated Lunar Operations (SLOPE) facility where researchers are improving the mobility of rovers on the moon.

Tours are open to U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents. Space is limited and reservations are required for admission. To register, call 216-433-9653 or send an email to sheila.d.reese@nasa.gov.

For more information and a complete schedule of Glenn's tours, visit <http://www.nasa.gov/centers/glenn/events/tours.html>.

Awards, Honors and Promotions

SCaN Testbed Managers Recognized

Two Glenn employees recently received Space Flight Awareness (SFA) awards for their contributions to mission success related to the Space Communications and Navigation Program (SCaN).

Sandra Johnson, Digital Communications and Navigation Branch, was invited to NASA's Kennedy Space Center, January 28–30, for an event highlighted by the SCaN Program TDRS-K (communications satellite) launch. Johnson, who served as deputy principal investigator for the SCaN Testbed, received a SFA Honoree Award and certificate for outstanding leadership and technical achievements “behind the scenes” that were instrumental to supporting prelaunch communications testing and planning post-launch experiments.



C-2013-115 Photo by Marvin Smith

Wheelock presents Silver Snoopy Award to Kiefer.

Aerospace Exploration Agency's ground processing and successful integration of the SCaN Testbed with the launch vehicle in Japan.



NASA photo

Astronaut Shane Kimbrough, left, and Greg Williams, deputy associate administrator of the Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate, present Johnson's award.

Astronaut Douglas Wheelock made a surprise visit to Dwayne Kiefer, VPL/Systems Verification and Operations Branch, Jan. 18, to present a SFA Silver Snoopy Award, reserved for astronauts to express appreciation for an individual's or group's contribution to ensure mission success. Kiefer was recognized for exemplary dedication, technical excellence and leadership as the manager of external interfaces for the SCaN Testbed Project. His efforts resulted in flawless execution of the Japanese

— By S. Jenise Veris

In Appreciation

We want to express our sincere appreciation for all of the expressions of sympathy and condolences received from our NASA friends, families and coworkers. The support, flowers, cards and memorial contributions reflect the depth of sorrow shared across the NASA community over the loss of our son. We are proud to be a part of such a caring community and will find comfort and strength in the days ahead knowing that our family is in the thoughts and prayers of many.

—John & Kathy Schubert

I would like to thank everyone who donated leave or offered prayers during my time of need. I'm really grateful for all the kindnesses. It reminds me we're a NASA family!

—Colleen Davis-Pearson

Following my heart attack on January 27, many of you reached out to me with prayers or words of encouragement through e-mails, cards, texts and phone calls. To say that I have been humbled by your generosity and support is an understatement. I feel very blessed to be part of an outstanding team of people at Glenn Research Center and I'm grateful to be able to call many of you friends. I'm back to work and feeling stronger every day. Please accept my most sincere thanks for every act of kindness on my behalf!

—Tim Ruffner

The Business of Federal Technology has selected Anthony Facca, chief of Glenn's Integration Office, Office of Chief Information Officer, as a 2013 Federal 100 award recipient. The awards recognize government and industry leaders who have played pivotal roles—above and beyond their daily responsibilities—in federal government IT. Facca was recognized for his groundbreaking efforts in establishing a program to develop hardware, software and security configuration standards that have been applied to over 65,000 computer systems throughout 10 NASA centers.



Facca

Dr. Anita Tenteris-Noebe has been selected chief of the Reliability and System Safety Engineering Branch in the Program and Project Assurance Division. Tenteris-Noebe previously served as the Materials and Processes Lead for the Multipurpose Crew Vehicle Service Module. In addition, she worked as the Risk Management subject matter expert responsible for technically managing and leading project teams for the center's risk management effort within the Safety and Mission Assurance directorate.



Dr. Tenteris-Noebe

Retirements



Roundtree

Valerie Roundtree, Space Combustion and Materials Branch, Facilities and Test Directorate, retired Feb. 2, 2013, with 33 1/2 years of NASA service.

Emergency and Inclement Weather Lines

Lewis Field: 216-433-9328 (WEAT) • Plum Brook Station: 419-621-3333

In Memory

Laurence W. Gertsma, 81, who retired from NASA in 1994 with 30 years of service, died Jan. 18. Gertsma was a U.S. Army veteran and mechanical engineer who contributed to NASA's aircraft propulsion systems research. He performed propulsion research for vertical and/or short take-off and landing (V/STOL) aircraft, critical to the designs and specifications suggested by manufacturers of supersonic aircraft airframes and engines. Gertsma authored/coauthored numerous technical reports and was the feasibility program manager for the Heat Pipe Radiation Cooling (HPRC) for the High-Speed Aircraft Propulsion program.

Carl L. Hembly, 96, who retired in 1979 with 20 years of NASA service, died Jan.

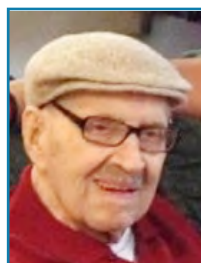


Hembly

19. A World War II Army Air Corp veteran, Hembly came to NASA as a journeyman sheet metal model maker in the Fabrication Division. He was a member of the Hangar crew who modified an F-106 jet for a series of test flight conditions and airplane speeds analyzing "boattail drag," a concern when a plane's speed approaches Mach 1. Hembly is survived by daughters Cheryl Brodka, SGT/Logistics & Technical Information Division; Suzanne Hembly

a retiree from the Supply Management Branch; and Meg Sajewski.

Erwin M. Lauffer, 95, who retired in 1984 with 23 years of NASA service,



Lauffer

died Jan. 8. Lauffer was an architect who came to NASA in 1962 after serving in the U.S. Navy Construction Battalion and private practice with his father. He tenured his career in the Architectural Design Section of NASA Lewis' Facilities Engineering Division, and became chief of the section. He was the project architect for the Design Engineering Building (DEB) and DEB Annex.

Robert R. Metroka, 83, who retired in 1989 with 29 years of NASA service, died Jan. 13. Metroka was a U.S. Marine Korean War veteran who joined NASA as a metallurgist in the Materials & Structures Division. He helped design the center's Hot Isostatic Press Facility, analyzed alternative materials for NASA's COSAM (Conservation of Strategic Aerospace Materials) program aimed at reducing U.S. dependency on strategic materials and supported the design and operation of the Atlas-Centaur launch vehicle for launching the Navy FLTSATCOM-8 communication satellite.



Metroka

Calendar

IFPTE LOCAL 28, LESA MEETING: LESA will hold its next membership meeting on Wednesday, March 13 at noon in the Employee Center's Small Dining Room.

GRC CONNECTIONS: The next GRC CONNECTIONS forum will be held March 21 from 10 to 10:45 a.m. in the Briefing Center.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH: Glenn's Women's History Month Observance event, featuring guest speaker Tim Daley, director of speakers for the Sailors and Soldiers Monument, will be held March 21, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Administration Building Auditorium. POC: Karin Bozak, 3-6621.

BOOK FAIR IN CAFE: Come visit the New Books Are Fun Fair in the Lewis Field Cafe, building 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., March 26 and 27. The event offers a wide selection of books, music and educational products. POC: Connie Carroll, 3-5535

LUNCH WITH THE DIRECTOR OF: Lori Pietravoia, chief of Glenn's Office of Human Capital Management, will host the next Lunch with the Director Of March 27 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Small Dining Room, building 15.

EARTHFEST 2013: Join the center at EarthFest 2013, Sunday, April 21, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds. This year's theme is Celebrating Advanced and Renewable Energy. NASA Glenn is participating with the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority to showcase the hydrogen-powered bus, the first electrolysis-based refueling station in Ohio.

Exchange Online Gift Shop
www.nasagiftshop.com



Article Submissions

News items and brief announcements for publication in the April issue is noon, March 22. Larger articles require at least one month notice.

READ US ON THE INTERNET:
<http://aerospacefrontiers.grc.nasa.gov>

Hermes
Award
2009-
2012



Yuri's Night

Join the party at our Visitor Center on April 13. Early bird tickets are on sale through March 18.
 Visit greatscience.com for details.

Injured Wildlife Safety Precautions

Do you know what to do when an injured animal comes into view? If the animal is seriously injured, please call Security and report the incident so it can be handled by the proper authorities.

Lewis Field: 216-433-8888 • Plum Brook Station: 419-621-3226



National Aeronautics and Space Administration

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NASA Glenn Employees Gave Generously—Again

Center Exceeds CFC 2012 Goal!

NASA Glenn concluded another successful Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) year, exceeding the 2012 CFC goal of \$416,000 by 9 percent and raising the total to \$453,381!

At Glenn's CFC Recognition Program Jan. 28, Center Director Jim Free thanked employees for their hard work and generosity and proudly announced his honor to assume leadership for the 2013 North Coast CFC. As chairman, Free will lead the 40 North Coast counties—37 in Ohio and 3 in Pennsylvania—in promoting the convenience and importance of employee support to their local charitable organizations through the CFC program.

Free joined North Coast CFC Director Carol McClain and Campaign Coordinator Steve Johnson in presenting certificates of appreciation to directorate chairpersons represented on Glenn's CFC Committee and the network of nearly 100 keyworkers.

The program also included a presentation of plaques to Bernadette (Sue) Puleo, Research & Technology Directorate for Directorate Chairperson of the Year and to Laura Bagnell, a recent retiree from the Logistics and Technical Information Division, for Keyworker of the Year. Bob Grossman was awarded a special Lifetime Achievement Award for 35 years of dedicated service as Glenn's CFC financial manager.

Glenn 2012 CFC Chairperson Anne Mills noted the successful combination of traditional fundraising favorites and new events, such as Face the Pie and the Chili Cookoff. These activities not only garnered monetary support but also boosted employee morale.

"The time and effort expended by this year's CFC Committee to coordinate all the special events, on top of making the campaign run smoothly, went above and beyond my expectations," Mills attested. "I am so grateful for everyone's positive attitude and infectious 'can do' spirit that contributed to our success."

To view photos of the 2012 CFC campaign, visit <http://cfc.grc.nasa.gov/>.

—By S. Jenise Veris



C-2013-218

Photo by Bridget Caswell

Pictured, left to right: Mills and Glenn CFC Co-Chair Terri McKay present Glenn's contributions check to McClain and Johnson from the North Coast Combined Federal Campaign.



FC 2012 Facts

- Campaign Goal: \$416,000
- Campaign Total: \$453,381
- Special Events: \$11,669
- Centerwide Participation: 41%
- Space Flight Systems Directorate Participation: 61%
- Office of Chief Counsel Participation: 100%